



# Contact

SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE


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## SJC From 1951 - 1977

# Fr. Gross Had Longest Tenure

*Saint Joseph's history from 1951-77 is detailed below in this continuing series of Bicentennial features. The article was researched by Father Dominic Gerlach, associate professor of history, and written by Charles J. Schuttrow, Director of Public Information.*

Father Raphael H. Gross assumed the presidency at Saint Joseph's College in 1951, and he remained in that position for the next 14 years, marking the longest presidential tenure in college history.

A member of the Department of English who had only recently finished work on his Ph.D. at the University of Montreal, Father Gross directed an administration that was not only lengthy, but significant.



FR. RAPHAEL H. GROSS

Growth of the college during his term far outshadowed the years covered by any of his predecessors, and a comparison of the college catalog of 1951-52 with that of 1965-66 reveals a staggering range of development.

In general, this comparison shows a vast extension of the college in every direction and a much greater

responsibility for Father Gross was a branch campus of the college which was opened in East Chicago, Ind., in the fall of 1951.

Due to this phenomenal growth of the college, a shift in the basis of revenue became necessary. Before 1951, a major part of the school's support came from the farm and contributed services of the clerical faculty and staff. Now other avenues of support had to be tapped.

Room, board and tuition was raised from \$460 per semester in 1951 to \$935 by 1965. Father Gross personally played an important role in developing other new sources of income. In 1951, he became one of the most active of the Presidents in the Associated Colleges in Indiana in soliciting corporation heads for funds.

In May, 1962, he instituted a new idea in fund raising which has occupied his time ever since retiring from the presidency: the Fellows Program, which under his direction has contributed several million dollars to the college, and has played a major role in the college's economic and cultural growth throughout the past fifteen years.

More than a decade has already elapsed since Father Charles Banet became the 13th President of Saint Joseph's College on June 7, 1965, and during his leadership the school has progressed on all fronts: academically, culturally, socially, religiously and athletically.

Moreover, during a period of inflation and severe financial challenges to this nation's private colleges and universities, Saint Joseph's has shown an improving financial profile as gifts from alumni, foundations and other groups and individuals are now at an all-time high.

Father Banet had served Saint Joseph's as its Head Librarian for 12 years when he became the first President to be elected by the Board of Trustees.

One of Father Banet's first projects was to seek legal counsel to modernize the college charter and to clarify the principles of governance of the corporation. One immediate consequence of this was the addition on June 16, 1966, of five lay members to the college Board of Trustees. This marked the first time that anyone other than members of the Precious Blood Society had served on the board, and this launched a trend that has since swept many other Catholic colleges.

This board was enlarged from 11 to 40 on Oct. 4, 1974, with most members of the earlier advisory Board

## FR. BANET MODERNIZED COLLEGE CHARTER, INTRODUCED LAYMEN TO COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

emphasis on the role of the layman on both faculty and staff. For example, the student body grew from 500 to 1341; the proportion of lay teachers to clerical faculty in 1951 was 16 to 40 and by 1965 it was 48 to 44.

Academic offerings increased from 20 departments with 16 majors in 1951 to 27 departments with 24 majors in 1965. These figures are just an indicator of a greater diversity in all campus organizations and activities. Remember too, that the total SJC staff including janitorial and office workers, for example, also correspondingly increased.

Many brothers served in 1951 as hall prefects, librarians, infirmarians, and workers in the carpentry and electrical shops. By 1965, most of them had been replaced by salaried personnel. In 1958, the Sisters of the Precious Blood, who had taken care of the kitchen and dining rooms since the founding of the college, also left their positions at the college.

As Saint Joseph's grew in excellence and reputation, its enrollment increased almost as fast, if not faster, than facilities could be readied. The growth from 500 to 1341 students necessitated the most extensive building program in college history: Noll and Bennett Halls in 1955, Gallagher and Halas Halls in 1958, Halleck Center and Schwieterman Hall in 1963. The Sisters convent was converted into Aquinas Hall in 1959.

Much of this expansion was made possible by the availability of federal (Housing and Urban Development) loans. A reminder of the booming student population is evidenced by SJC's ownership of Washburn Hall in Rensselaer.

Two other Rensselaer homes also were rented, and the "White House," the powerhouse, Administration Building basement and sections of Science Hall plus two other farm homes had been at one time or another pressed into service for student housing.

Meanwhile, the college for the first time gained national attention via its athletic program—specifically, the football team. On Dec. 22, 1956, the team won the co-championship of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics and played Montana State to a 0-0 tie on a muddy field in Little Rock, Ark., in the first Aluminum Bowl game.

An expansion in publications came in the fall of 1954 with the establishment of PARENTS MAGAZINE, and in 1956 the Ford Foundation grant of \$270,000 made possible additional benefits for the lay faculty.

A concrete result of this was the faculty housing project in the woods south of the college which was begun in 1957. In 1958 the post office was enlarged and made a substation of the Rensselaer post office. An added

of Lay Trustees becoming members of the present governing board. The Precious Blood Society still has just six members on this board, and it has been ably served by the first lay chairman of the board, G. Richard Schreiber, a 1943 alumnus, and his recent successor, James J. Carmody.

In keeping with Father Banet's policy of participatory governance, one faculty and one student representative are board members. Moreover, what is true of broader representation on the Board of Trustees is duplicated in other committees in the school administration.



FR. CHARLES H. BANET

Father Banet's administration also has tackled projections of a declining enrollment, and the first step taken was the decision to make the campus coeducational. Justin Hall, the newest and largest dormitory, was completed in 1968 and women residents joined the campus population that fall.

An innovation perhaps equalling coeducation in significance was the radical restructuring of the general education program into the present Core program, which was begun with the freshman class in the fall of 1969. The program has won widespread recognition from educators and educational associations, and many other schools are now taking steps to follow

Saint Joseph's pioneering path. Support from organizations like the Lilly Endowment, Inc., with grants up to \$250,000, provide evidence of the acclaim the Core program has merited.

The late 1960's was a period of unrest on many college campuses, but it was more a time for open dialogue and understanding at Saint Joseph's. Father Banet has run an "open" administration, exemplified by his principles of participatory governance, and the results were evident during the late sixties.

While many colleges and universities suffered through periods of violence, Collegeville remained calm and quiet. Student protests have not been entirely absent—the cafeteria food, for example, has periodically drawn criticism—but protests have been regularly met with open administrative doors and mutual understanding.

Nothing was more shocking, however, than the loss of the Administration Building to fire in the early morning hours of Feb. 4, 1973. It was probably a greater shock than the "Old Gym" fire of 1914 because of financial problems facing the school at the time, but all members of the college family quickly united to turn disaster into something positive.

Students, faculty, area residents, alumni, parents, trustees and all friends of the college united in a fresh and more positive attitude toward the college. The Brick-by-Brick fund-raising campaign has raised approximately \$2,000,000 for recovery from fire losses and up to now the recovery has been accomplished by renovation and functional reassignment of existing facilities.

For example, the administrative offices have been transferred to Xavier Hall, which was formerly occupied by Precious Blood Society seminarians, and the faculty offices have been moved to Gaspar Hall, formerly a student dormitory.

In addition, after 22 years, Saint Joseph's branch campus in East Chicago, Ind., was formally detached, and on Dec. 7, 1973, it was named Calumet College. Father Banet had initiated action towards this goal in 1965.

## Fr. Shea Serves President Ford Committee



Fr. Donald F. Shea, Chairman of the SJC History Department served on recent Ford Committee campaign.

Fr. Donald F. Shea, Chairman of Saint Joseph's history department, and who has taught constitutional history for 29 years at the college recently served as the mid-east regional coordinator during the past presidential campaign for former President Ford.

Fr. Shea was on a six-week leave of absence from the college during the campaign, was based in Washington, and aided in coordinating the recent president's campaign in 11 mid-eastern states which included traveling through Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and Delaware.

Fr. Shea says "This was really a unique opportunity to make history, to actually see politics from the inside." In addition, he said "I joined the campaign out of a love for politics, and because of a commitment to the Republican philosophy."

He particularly stresses his belief in the Jeffersonian view that "That government which governs least governs best." As a Republican, Fr. Shea noted that "President Ford's insistence to return to the private sector all those aspects of education, social aid, and welfare is far superior to increasing bureaucratic government control."

Fr. Shea holds a B.A. degree from DePauw University, an M.A. from the University of Michigan and a Ph.D. from Loyola University of Chicago, and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa (National Scholastic Honorary Society).





# Alumni Class Notes

1943

**Justin A. Alt** retired July 1. He was a United States postal clerk for 33 years.

1946

**Donald G. Leavitt** is beginning his 22nd year of teaching patent law at St. Louis University School of Law.

**Joseph J. Keane** has been an N.F.L. scout for the Kansas City Chiefs, the Los Angeles Rams, and currently the New Orleans Saints for the past five years.

1947

**Dr. Donald L. Ballmann**, who works at Dames and Moore, is currently directing the firm's geotechnical and environmental consulting on the Callaway nuclear power plant for the Union Electric Co., in Missouri.

1950

**Dr. Edward J. Koval** has been promoted to Director of the International Division of the A.E. Staley Mfg. Co., in Decatur, Ill.

**Donald J. Tesmond**, Superintendent of Schools at Matteson, Ill., will receive a professional development award from the National Academy of School Executives this month.

1954

**James J. Righeimer** officiated the 1976 class 5 "A" football finals in the state of Illinois. This marks the second time in three years he has done this.

**Don Klinsenger**, who works for American Can Co., in Greenwich, Conn., won the salesman of the year award for the Chicago region in 1976. This is the third time Don has won this award.

1955

**Rev. Richard Decavitt** was appointed Jan. 1 as the administrator of Precious Blood Parish, Dayton, Ohio.

1957

**William E. Rupp** is the Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus #1266 at Monroe, Mich., for 1975-77.

1958

**Rev. Robert E. Onofrey** is a composer and performer of contemporary clarinet music. He played for the International Clarinet Clinic in Denver, Colo., last August.

1959

**Ronald L. Guertin** became first vice-president of the midwest region for Shearson Hayden-Stone, Inc., last August.

**Michael J. Tierney** has been teaching general science and earth science at John Marshall High School in Chicago for the past 13 years.

**David R. Carey** was recently promoted to manager, fire control group, Patriot Air Defense Program at Raytheon Co., Bedford, Mass.

**David E. Cassin** has recently joined as a partner in an office supply business. He and his wife have three children and have just moved into a new home in Glen Ellyn, Ill.

1960

**Daniel F. Casey** has recently completed the Indiana Association of Certified Public Accountants CPA examination.

**Gilbert J. Hawkins** was promoted and transferred to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare regional office in San Francisco as the regional program consultant for environmental health services.

1961

**Ronald F. Urban** graduated from John Marshall Law School in February, 1976 and passed the Illinois State Bar examination.

**Sr. Margaret Tuley** received her master in hospital and health care administration degree from St. Louis University last May 8.

**Gerald E. Ruzicka** has started a company, Medicare Equipment Services, dealing in the rental of durable medical equipment in Naperville, Ill.

1962

**Robert J. Henneman** has been appointed northwest broker district manager for Personal Products, a Johnson & Johnson affiliate.

**Pat Backer** has been appointed director of promotions for "Marriage" magazine, published at St. Meinrad Archabbey, St. Meinrad, Ind. Prior to this appointment, he served as editor of the magazine.

**Frank Flamerich** is president of his own company, EFE Export Inc., located in Leisure City, Fla.

1963

**Sr. Luanne Durst** has been appointed to the professional staff of the Washington Secretariat for Liturgy as announced by Archbishop J. Quinn.

**James F. Quinn** became a "Fellow" of Saint Joseph's College in 1976. He coaches Little League baseball and also is an ISHAA basketball official.

1964

**Robert C. Bridge** is a social studies teacher and head football coach at South Adams High School in Berne, Ind.

**Gerald L. Walter** is currently the assistant principal of Merrillville Ind., High School.

**Dennis M. Dancer** has been named production manager of the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company's tire plant in Pottstown, Pa.



William H. Cook, III '71



Sr. Luanne Durst '63

1965

**James A. Murphy**, director of geriatric programs at the Wabash Valley Mental Health Center in West Lafayette, Ind., is serving on the Saint Joseph's College faculty as a lecturer in sociology.

**Edward R. Michaels** was named Home Transportation Company "salesman of the year" for 1976 in Marietta, Ga.

**James C. Hattemer** has purchased his own printing company in Cincinnati, Ohio.

**Sr. Janet H. Guretz** received her master of arts degree from St. Louis University May 8.

**Joseph S. Ptazsek** is running for alderman in Wauwatosa, Wis.

**Stephen R. Moehring** is now in his 12th year as social studies teacher in Benton School Corp. He has also been the outstanding summer salesman for Hiatt Buick-Pontiac-GMC in Fowler, Ind., for the past four years.

1966

**John Gross** is the political action chairman of the Chicago Teachers' Union and is a member of the CTU Executive Board.

1967

**Timothy J. Grajewski** has been promoted to associate administrator of St. John Hospital, Sterling Hgts., Mich.

**Philip A. Datka** was named assistant principal at Germantown (Wis.) High School. He will also receive his master's degree in administrative leadership from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee this spring.

**James Tobin** is helping the newly-formed nonpartisan National Taxpayers United of Illinois place a constitutional limit on the taxing power of the State of Illinois.

1968

**Dave Sudy** is producer-director of his own production company. He produces shows primarily for Chef Henri Dinner Theatre in Avon Lake, Ohio.

**John Ryan** is presently writing his dissertation for a Ph.D. in clinical psychology.

1969

**Edward McCarthy**, who is head baseball and football coach at St. Joseph's High School (Trumbull, Conn.), coached his baseball team to the state class "5" championship last spring.

**William A. Ford** has been admitted as a partner to R. Trent Codd and Company, CPA'S in Miami Beach, Fla.

1970

**Henry J. Schmitt** is registered as a professional engineer in the State of Indiana.

**James T. Francis** coached the Lorain Catholic High School golf team to the state

championship in Columbus, Ohio in the fall of 1976. He is also assistant varsity basketball coach.

1971

**William H. Cook III** has joined Mutual Trust Life Insurance Co., as a general agent. He will head the company offices located in Toledo, Ohio.

**Edward J. Krch** has been appointed to director of marketing for Warrenville, Ill., Trailer Mfg., Inc.

1972

**First Lieutenant Paul D. Yeoman** is a member of a unit which has received the U.S. Air Force Flying Safety Award. He is assigned at Grissom AFB in Indiana.

**Steve Cleary**, who works as an industrial engineer for Firestone Rubber Company (Bloomington, Ill.) completed a 26-mile marathon foot race in 2 hours, 58 minutes.

**Bro. Thomas Bohman** completed his master of arts in liberal studies with a history major in December.

**Robert J. Pizzute** has been promoted to regional sales supervisor at Metropolitan Life, Milwaukee, Wis. His responsibilities include the states of Wisconsin and Minnesota.

**Frederick W. Plant** has been promoted to business administrator of the School of Veterinary Medicine at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind.

**Richard Harrison Coerver** was appointed senior vice-president and director of stores for Macy's in Kansas City, Mo. "Rick" also was named to the executive committee and board of directors.

**Richard Wheeler** is the head football coach and assistant track coach at Pittsville (Wis.) High School.

**Cindy Smith Rose** will receive her master's degree in health and physical education in March, 1977, from East Stroudsburg, (Pa.) State College. She is presently employed by the University of Northern Iowa.

**Jaime R. "Rick" Nix** is currently hosting a radio program on WFBE-FM and writes freelance for the Michigan Gazette. He is also employed at the Chevrolet Engine Plant.

1973

**Malcom J. Harkins III** received his Juris Doctor degree from St. Louis University May 8.

**Margaret Fackelman** is a receptionist-secretary at the Fort Wayne State Hospital and Training Center and is working part-time on an anthropology degree.

**Bro. Ronald E. Oser** is assistant pastor-business manager at St. Joseph Church, Wapakoneta, Ohio. He is also CYO sports director for the northern half of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

1974

**Stephen J. Butler** is the editor-in-chief of the University of Cincinnati Law Review, a university publication.

1975

**Shirley C. DeBrosse** graduated from the University of Dayton Aug. 1 with a M.S. degree in education. Her specialty is school counseling.

**Jane C. Hinton** has received a tuition and fee waiver award and is pursuing a master's degree in psychiatric social work at Illinois Chicago Circle.

1976

**Gerald Miller** announces his engagement to Carly Cerce ('77).

**Walter K. Prochno, Jr.** is teaching high school health classes and is also assistant varsity football and wrestling coach at Warsaw (Ind.) High School.

**Elizabeth E. Lakin** is attending Purdue University-Calumet Campus; she is studying electrical engineering technology.

**John Oliver** has been awarded a graduate fellowship from the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International for the 1977-78 academic year. He is studying British literature at the University of Kent at Canterbury, England.

**Daniel W. Harbor** is employed at C. and G. Potts Co., in Indianapolis as production manager.

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Due to the enormous response we received on our Class Notes questionnaire we are unable to publish all of them at this time. We will complete the list in our next issue.—Editor







# SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

## Contact

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## CAMP O' CHAMPS '77

Under the directorship of Bill and Diane Jennings, these activities will be sponsored:

June 24-25 Tennis weekend (adults only)

July 10 — July 15

Girls' basketball, volleyball & track

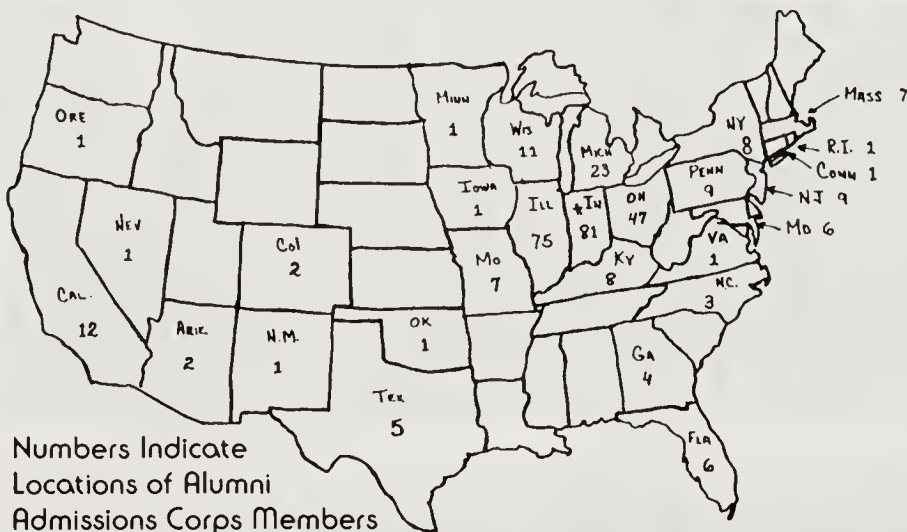
Boys' basketball & football (separate camps)

July 17 — July 22

Girls & boys all-sports camp

For a brochure containing more information about the camps, please write to:

CAMP O' CHAMPS  
Bill Jennings, Director  
P.O. Box 933  
S.J.C., Rensselaer, Ind. 47978  
(219) 866-5724



Numbers Indicate  
Locations of Alumni  
Admissions Corps Members

#### DEAR ALUM:

The members of this group have been asked and presently being asked to:

- \* Let us know about potential students they know
- \* Attend College Days / Nights in local high schools
- \* Call prospective students and tell them about Saint Joseph's

You can be a great help to your College. Some states have no Corps members at all. Other states have members, but no one in particular towns and cities. **We welcome your participation.**

SINCERELY,

BILL CRAIG  
Admissions Director

JERRY LASKO  
Alumni Director

## The Alumni Admissions Corps

385 of your Classmates and Fellow Alumni in 27 States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and Japan assist Saint Joseph's by serving on the Alumni Admissions Corps. If you would be interested in joining, please let us know.

Please Clip Out  
and Return To:

ADMISSIONS OFFICE  
SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE  
RENSSELAER, INDIANA 47978

Dear Bill and Jerry:

Please send me more information about The Alumni Admissions Corps.

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. ( ) \_\_\_\_\_